MCC

METROPOLITAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

Sunday, May 18, 2014
5th Easter

Supporting Cast: Boaz

930 North 4th Street ♦ Allentown, PA 18102
610-709-8800 ♦ info@mcclv.org ♦ www.mcclv.org

The Mission of MCCLV is to call all people to a holy life in Christ, changing lives and transforming the world

MCC LEHIGH VALLEY ORDER OF SERVICE

As you prepare for worship, take a few moments to reflect on the current state of your relationship with God. Is the communication channel completely open and free of any cross-traffic that might interfere with your ability to hear from God? What do you need to let go of, so that you may let God take control? Close your eyes, take a deep breath and let worship begin for you...

Opening Song

Call to Worship

Invitation to Ministry

A Time of Praise (3 Songs)

Prayer Preparation Song

Prayer

Scripture Reading

Children's Blessing

Message

Song of Response

Offering

Offering Song

Communion

Communion Song

Prayer Over Gifts

Closing Song

Commission & Blessing

Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel
Office Hours:
Monday: 8am-2pm
Tues-Thurs: 8am-1pm
Fri: 8am-12 noon

Looking for low-cost space for you birthday party or family celebration? Consider MCCLV's Fellowship Hall for your gathering! Contact Administrative Assistant Paula Merkel at 610-709-8800 or e-mail office@mcclv.org for more information.

Space Reservation: Any individual or group wishing to schedule a meeting or event at the church **is required to fill out a space reservation form**. Write to office@mcclv.org more information.

Sunday Bulletin & Announcements

The deadline for all bulletin notices & announcements is **Wednesday at noon** – email to office@mcclv.org

Audio-Visual Support: Anyone planning an event at MCCLV **is required to see Music & Worship Director Brian Jones** in advance to arrange any needed AV support. The church may not be able to honor last minute requests.

MCCLV IS ON FACEBOOK!
Search **MCC Lehigh Valley.** All MCCLV related posts and tags will be approved through the office. Thank you for your cooperation!

DEALING WITH THE PAIN OF A LOSS?

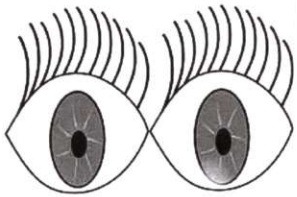
Loss and grief are part of life, but can be difficult to process alone. Elaine Ely is a trained, experienced and certified specialist in the area of end-of-life issues, loss and grief, being hosted by MCCLV. Her current hours at the church are:

Wednesdays from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
(other hours can be arranged upon request).
For a single consultation or on-going counseling, reach her at elaine.ely.pastor@gmail.com or 215-915-4370.

Also, watch for details on an up-coming workshop: "Facing Grief - Yours and Other's", and a 6 week support group series to be offered this fall.

MCCLV's **Altar Guild** is looking for people who have an eye for design, a heart for good flow and a mind that likes to make sure all the pieces of a puzzle come together.

If that is you, email Normana Schaaf at: normana.schaaf@verizon.net



Early Morning Prayer

So what is prayer? Prayer is a relationship, wherein we humbly communicate, worship, and sincerely seek God's face, knowing that God hears us, loves us and will respond, though not always in a manner we may expect or desire. Prayer can encompass confession, praise, adoration, supplication, intercession and more.

***Early Morning Prayer at MCCLV, 9am every Sunday** is a wonderful time to focus on our Creator, get caught up with God, and start your worship day with power.*

Come and be blessed!

Centering Prayer

Begins May 21 @ 6pm
MCCLV's Prayer Room

Continuing Wednesdays
through July

ASSIST YOUR CHURCH with its annual Pride Festival participation

Do you enjoy big festivals and meeting new people?

Do you love telling people about the great things happening at MCCLV?

To learn more about how to be a part of the special day, contact MCCLV's Pride Festival Coordinator Gavin Neese at: neese10@gmail.com

First planning meeting is Sunday, June 1 following the worship service

Yard Sale Fundraiser
Saturday July, 19, 2014

All proceeds will be given too MCCLV Food Pantry to help with materials needed to set up and to supplement items to be given out.

See Barb Baus for more information and to sign up to help.

Save The Date

Saturday November 8, 2014

Tricky Tray

Committee Meets:
4th Wednesdays
May through October
MCCLV's Children's
Sunday School Room

See Sue Carpenter for more details or email her at:
sue.carpenter@voya.com

A QUOTE FOR YOUR WEEK

Wherever you go,
go with all your heart.
(Confucius)

Raise Funds For People Living With HIV/AIDS

The HIV/Positive Living Group at MCCLV will be coordinating the church's participation in the annual FACT Games, an event that raises funds for people living with HIV/AIDS. The event includes fun games like a pie-eating contest and relay races. The Games will take place in September, stay tuned for more details!

Earn Money for MCCLV Shopping at AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support MCCLV at no cost. To shop at AmazonSmile go to www.smile.amazon.com and 0.5% of any product marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" will be donated to MCCLV. Those with an existing Amazon account, can continue to use that same account on AmazonSmile. First time visitors to www.smile.amazon.com will need to select a charitable organization to receive donations. MCCLV is listed as "**MCC of the Lehigh Valley**" and will be remembered so that all future purchases made at AmazonSmile will result in a donation to MCCLV. Questions, please see any member of the Board. Again, it's "**MCC of the Lehigh Valley**."

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Did You Know?

Did you know your church will be serving as a polling place this year? For the May and November elections, MCCLV is proud to serve the greater community in this way. Don't forget to vote May 20!

Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing

LEPOCO
Lehigh-Pocono Committee of Concern
lepoco@fast.net www.lepoco.org

313 West Fourth Street
Bethlehem, PA 18015
(610) 691-8730

On **Tuesday, May 27th, 2014 at 3:30pm** there is a meeting of the Lehigh Valley Committee Against State Killing (LV-CASK) at the LEPOCO Peace Center (313 West 4th Street) in Bethlehem. This anti-death penalty group seeks to end capital punishment in PA. Members share information regarding legal developments surrounding the issue, plan events that help increase public awareness of problems regarding the selection of persons to be determined unworthy of life, and meet with legislators to discuss alternatives to the death penalty. Call LEPOCO at 610-691-8730 for more information.

Do You Want to Help Feed Hungry People?

MCCLV's annual Free Market fresh food outreach to the neighborhood comes up in September. Barb Baus is serving as coordinator of this effort that feeds a hungry corner of Allentown with fresh fruits and vegetables.

MCCLV -- Summer Sundays -- 9AM -- WOW!

For nine Sundays this summer, MCCLV will present a **LIFE LESSONS** Seminar Series following up on the wildly successful Navigating Life Seminars offered last fall. Starting **June 15th**, come and learn important life lessons on these topics:

- *Adoption & Custody Issues in the GLBT Community*
- *Achieving and Sustaining Emotional Health*
- *Non-conforming / Alternate Gender Topics and*
- *Panel Discussion*
- *Dealing with Loss*
- *Being a Long Term Care Giver*
- *Estate Planning -- Finances & Insurance*
- *GLBT Perspective on Wills and Other Legal Documents*

On those Summer Sundays when Life Lesson Seminars aren't presented, keep up with your 9AM routine and come for **Early Morning Prayers** scheduled for May 25th - June 15th and August 17th - 31st. The 8AM Early Morning Prayers will resume in September along with Adult Christian Education at 9AM.

Prayer and Wisdom -- what could be better goals for your 2014 summer?
Wow is right !!

For more information, see Barb Baus or Karl Steiner or email Karl at karl.steiner@mcclv.org.

MCCLV 30th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET

Saturday, May 31, 2014
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Chicago Restaurant and Nightlife
1179 Airport Road, Allentown

Cocktail Hour (cash bar)

Dinner
Penne pasta or linguini in a cream sauce with sautéed mushrooms, onions and asparagus
OR
Panko encrusted, butterflied chicken breast topped with creamy mushroom garlic sauce and served with sides of rosemary garlic mashed potatoes and sautéed green beans

Dance party with DJ Daniel Alonzo

TICKETS: $40 per person

NO TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

See Cheryl Wenhold after service in the Fellowship Hall (until 12:30 p.m.) to purchase your tickets or email her at cwenhold@ptd.net

RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP

Now Accepting Applications!

Do you know a graduating high school senior who could use a little extra cash to help with education expenses next year? That's what the Rainbow Scholarship is all about!

Since 2003, Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley has been encouraging academic achievement, building self esteem and providing positive reinforcement for LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) youth in the Lehigh Valley and surrounding counties through the "Rainbow Scholarship." The scholarship increases positive visibility for LGBT youth and promotes awareness and acceptance in the community at large.

The "Rainbow Award" and "Queer Student of the Year" are awarded to LGBT graduating high school seniors who will be attending a school of higher education. The essay contest is open to all graduating high school students, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Applicants must reside in the following counties: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Schuykill and Warren.

Don't delay! Check out all of the details and application online at **www.prideglv.org.** Deadline to apply is July 31. Winners will be notified in early August and awards will be presented on stage at **Pride in the Park** on Sunday, August 17, 2014.

Cast your cares on the LORD
and he will sustain you;
he will never let the righteous fall.
Psalm 55:22

Boldly Going...

Do you like playing with the latest techy gadget or enjoy knowing how new electronic devices work? MCCLV's Tech Squad could be the place to put your tech-hobby to practical use. Learn how to run MCCLV's multi robotic camera system or how to create the best sound for the sanctuary and how to keep the worship services flow going using the screens. If you would like to know more contact Jeff Hayes at: ateam@mcclv.org

HIV Positive Support Group

A HIV support group at MCCLV **meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 12:30pm**. The focus is on living a positive life with HIV—the group is called HIV/Positive Living. This will be a chance to share and have candid discussions. This group is limited to those with HIV, but there will be occasional guest speakers. If you are interested, please contact **Dean Hiatt** at robdean@ptd.net

Congratulations to Robby Schotter!

MCCLV congratulates Robby Schotter on his graduation from General Theological Seminary with a Master's degree in Biblical Studies. Robby serves as Spiritual Formation Ministry Coordinator at MCCLV and is a long-time member of the faith community.

FORGE West Leaders:
Scott George **smgmcclv@gmail.com**
Ron Smith **rsmith.mcclv@gmail.com**

FORGE East Leaders:
Barb Baus **babaus@hotmail.com**
Lauren Sheldon **laurenesheldon@gmail.com**

FORGE South Leaders:
Loreli Bauer **lorelibauer@aol.com**
Elaine Ely **pastor_elaine@yahoo.com**

FORGE A stronger relationship with Christ and one another—join a FORGE group!

A FORGE group **is not** a Bible study, Christian training session, group therapy, nor a doctrinal boot camp.

A FORGE group **is** a small, relational gathering of Christians, primarily focused on **transformation** and not information, where people learn how to interpret their entire lives through the lens of gospel and grow in faith in Christ.

Groups meet every other week for one hour—for worship, prayer, devotionals, testimonies and fellowship. Although groups are spread out geographically (South, East and West) to make them easier to get to, you may attend whichever group you choose, even if it is not the one nearest you.

***Contact group leaders to learn more ***

Policy & Procedure Committee

All strong organizations run smoothly with clear policies and procedures in place. Do you have a heart for ensuring the safety the church's children? Do you believe in the benefits of Direct Dealing? Would you like to help equip MCCLV with the proper tools to protect the church's congregants, staff, and building?

- Meets 4th Sundays -
For more information, please see
Lauren Sheldon
laureneshedon@gmail.com or
Emma Marrero
emma.marrero@kidspeace.org

DO YOU HAVE A CARE NEED?

Are you scheduled for surgery? Do you desire a home visit? Are you in need of a prayer partner? MCCLV's Congregational Care & Health Ministry Coordinator is Karl Steiner. Let Karl know you care needs by seeing him in person following the worship service, e-mailing him at karl.steiner@mcclv.org or phoning him at (610) 987-2858. Karl will coordinate care for you through MCCLV.

Help Out MCCLV's Pastor

Do you enjoy reading novels in a variety of genres? Your help is needed! MCCLV Pastor Elizabeth Goudy will have a rough draft of her book prepared following her sabbatical months of August-September, 2014. A group is needed to read through the manuscript in October, 2014. This is a short-term activity but will require a high level of commitment and focus. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, talk with the Pastor following worship or contact rev.goudy@mcclv.org. Also, if you have experience with the publishing industry or using the services of a literary agent, see the Pastor.

Prayers Needed?

Individual Intercessory Prayer for people in need

11:30am-12:20pm
Sundays
Prayer Room

Led by the Deacons

Women Ages 20-39

Special Worship Service & Luncheon
Theme: "*You Are Right Where You Need To Be*"
Saturday, June 14
11:00am-1:00pm

All women in their 20s or 30s are welcome at the event, no need to be a church member at MCCLV (or anywhere else!)
Cost: $10

Reserve a spot by writing to office@mcclv.org or calling 610-709-8800

The theme for the MCCLV 30th Anniversary banquet is: **MCCLV: 30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**. Photos are sought from the following activities over the past 30 years:

- *MCCLV booth at any Pride event*
- *Pride Kid's Tent*
- *MCCLV booth at FACT Games*
- *Choir Events (elderly homes, Iron Pigs games, other outside events)*
- *Adopt-An-Apartment*
- *Rainbow Players Theatre Co.*
- *Freedom to Marry Rallies*
- *Produce Giveaway*
- *Food Pantry*
- *St. Andrew's/MCCLV Feeding the Homeless*
- *MCCLV Booth at Reading Pride*
- *MCCLV award presentation from Pennsylvania Diversity Network*
- *AND any other community outreach events.*

Contact Dean Hiatt with any questions. E-mail the photos to Dean at dean_hiatt@hotmail.com or loan photos that can be scanned.

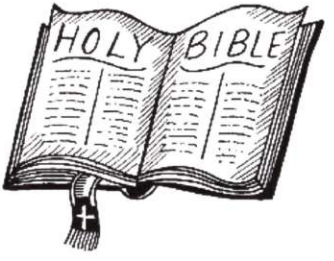
Photos Needed

For the upcoming MCCLV 30th Anniversary Banquet, there will be a time to honor members of MCCLV who are no longer with us. Submit photos of beloved MCCLV friends and family members to Dean Hiatt at dean_hiatt@hotmail.com

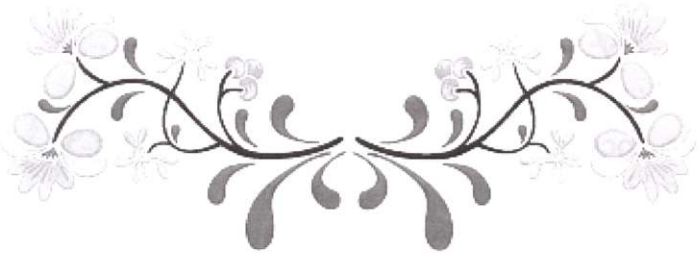
MCCLV IS ON YOUTUBE!
To view and subscribe to our channel go to **www.youtube.com** and search **MCC LV**.

9-Session Bible Study Starts Wednesday

MCCLV will host an in-depth study of Paul's Letters to the Romans and Corinthians. The studies will be led by Rev. Goudy and people from all levels of Biblical background are invited to take part. The Romans study is titled "*Why Do Evangelicals Love Romans So Much They Want to Marry It?*" The 1 Corinthians study is titled "*A Conflicted Church*" and the 2 Corinthians study is titled "*A Conflicted Church, Continued.*" All are welcome and warmly encouraged to grow in Biblical knowledge, wisdom and interpretation. For more information contact the Pastor at rev.goudy@mcclv.org or 610-709-8800.
Schedule:



May 21 at 7pm: Romans 1-4
May 28 @ 7pm: Romans 5-8
June 4 @ 7pm: Romans 9-12
June 11 @ 7pm: Romans 13-16
June 18 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 1-6
June 25 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 7-10
July 2 @ 7pm: 1 Corinthians 11-16
July 9 @ 7pm: 2 Corinthians 1-7:4
July 16 @ 7pm: 2 Corinthians 7:5-13



UPCOMING WORSHIP AT MCCLV

6th Easter: May 25, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Judges 4:1-10
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Supporting Cast: Deborah"**

7th Easter: June 1st, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Joshua 2:1-14
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Supporting Cast: Rahab"**

Pentecost Sunday: June 8th, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Acts 2:1-21
Preaching: Rev. Delores P. Berry

1st Pentecost: June 15, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Luke 7:36-50
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Maintaining Dignity In An Undignified World, Part I"**

2nd Pentecost: June 22, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Proverbs 31:10-31
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Maintaining Dignity In An Undignified World, Part II"**

3rd Pentecost: June 29, 2014 @ 10:30am
Scripture Reading: Luke 18:9-14
Preaching: Rev. Elizabeth Goudy
Sermon Title: **"Maintaining Dignity in an Undignified World, Part III"**

Today's Scripture Reading:

Ruth 4:1-10

No sooner had Boaz gone up to the gate and sat down there than the next-of-kin, of whom Boaz had spoken, came passing by. So Boaz said, 'Come over, friend; sit down here.' And he went over and sat down. Then Boaz took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, 'Sit down here'; so they sat down. He then said to the next-of-kin, Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our kinsman Elimelech. So I thought I would tell you of it, and say: Buy it in the presence of those sitting here, and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not, tell me, so that I may know, for there is no one prior to you to redeem it, and I come after you.' So he said, 'I will redeem it.' Then Boaz said, 'The day you acquire the field from the hand of Naomi, you are also acquiring Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead man, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance. At this, the next-of-kin said, 'I cannot redeem it for myself without damaging my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.'
Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, one party took off a sandal and gave it to the other; this was the manner of attesting in Israel. So when the next-of-kin said to Boaz, 'Acquire it for yourself', he took off his sandal. Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, 'Today you are witnesses that I have acquired from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, to be my wife, to maintain the dead man's name on his inheritance, in order that the name of the dead may not be cut off from his kindred and from the gate of his native place; today you are witnesses.'

MCCLV's Weekly 2014 Budgeted for Giving is $3,916.98

Date	Attendance	Giving
5/11/2014	98	$1,386.99
5/4/2014	91	$2,909.10
4/27/14	85	$1,936.94
4/20/2014 (Easter)	124	$3,338.53

Full financial reporting is provided at the Board meeting on the 2nd Sunday of every month. All are welcome to attend. Additionally, reports may be viewed in the Board binder in the Library.

MCCLV MINISTRY COORDINATORS

Congregational Care & Health:
Karl Steiner | karl.steiner@mcclv.org
20s30s Ministry, Faith Community Nurse, Hospitality, Prayer Team and Reconciliation & Affirmation Ministry

Spiritual Formation:
Robert Schotter | robdean@ptd.net
Small Group Discipleship, Spiritual Growth Programming and Children & Youth Ministry

Outreach & Justice:
See Rev. Goudy for more information
Evangelism, Free Market, Silent Witness, Food Bank, Messengers Art Ministry and Helping Hands Ministry

Media & Marketing:
See Rev. Goudy for more information
Communications and Marketing Ministry

Denominational Representatives:
Lay Delegates Hope Hilby and Normana Schaaf

MCCLV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Carpenter, Jim Harbst, Diana LaTorre, Emma Marrero, Lauren Sheldon and Ron Smith
If you would like an item included on the Board agenda see any Board Member

MCCLV DEACONS

Loreli Bauer, Maricel Concepcion, Clarence Freed, Hope Hilby, Jessica Mitchell, Normana Schaaf, Karl Steiner and Carol Stevens

MCCLV STAFF

Pastor: Elizabeth Goudy | rev.goudy@mcclv.org
Music and Worship Director: Brian Jones | brian.jones@mcclv.org
Administrative Assistant: Paula Merkel | office@mcclv.org